

10/049162

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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 7388/72173

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIRASHIMA et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: EXTERNAL PATCH ROLL

February 8, 2001

#3
SNT / Pre
Amend
A

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, insert:

A1
This application is the National phase of International Application PCT/JP00/05367, filed August 10, 2000, which designated the U.S., and which was not published under PCT Article 21(2) in English.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 26, through page 10, line 4 with:

A2
The external patch 30 is in the form of a strip. One end of the strip of the external patch 30 is affixed to the outer surface of the dispenser core 20, and it is wrapped around the dispenser core 30 with the support 32 side facing outward.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 15 through page 15, line 16 with:

A3
This is because when the slit width 64 is less than 1.0 mm, the slit width 64 is relatively small compared to the seam width 66, which tends to interfere with the hand tearability of the slits 60. "Hand tearability" indicates the degree of ease with which the external patch can be